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## NEWS RELEASE

California Department  
of Veterans Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CHEERFUL CROWD WITNESSES GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE PETE KNIGHT VETERANS HOME OF CALIFORNIA

LANCASTER –In front of hundreds of eager witnesses, the California Department of Veterans Affairs and the communities of Lancaster and Palmdale today broke ground for Pete Knight Veterans Home of California. Many veterans, both local and from throughout the state, turned out in mass to witness this historic event.

"We are extremely happy to be able to break ground for constructing the Pete Knight Veterans Home of California," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Tom Johnson. "What was once only a dream for so many veterans is now becoming a reality with construction of this veterans home."

Today's ceremony included the participation of local, state, and federal elected officials, the Blue Eagles Honor Guard, a flyover by the Women's Airforce Service Pilots, a keynote address by Col David E. Miller, Vice Commander, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base.

A very touching moment took place when Steve Knight, Councilmember for the City of Palmdale, delivered a heartfelt tribute to his father, the late William J. "Pete" Knight, the veterans home strongest and most vocal advocate when he was in the state Senate.

The Pete Knight Veterans Home of California will provide 60 beds where Residential Care for the Elderly (RCFE) will be offered to admitted veterans. The RCFE level of care is provided to veteran members who need assistance with two or more activities of daily living, but they must be able to take their own medications. Typically, these members are active and mobile, and are encouraged to do as much as is possible for themselves within the context of RCFE care.

Also available at the Pete Knight Veterans Home of California will be an Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Program with room for up to 50 members daily. Veteran members participating in the ADHC program are often candidates for admission to a Skilled Nursing facility, but have family support, which permits them to remain at home. ADHC is a therapeutic health care program designed to permit members to remain outside the Skilled Nursing environment, while providing caregiver relief and a social outlet.

Attn: News Editors – Color renderings of the Pete Knight Veterans Home of California are available by email by contacting [Jaime.Arteaga@cdva.ca.gov](mailto:Jaime.Arteaga@cdva.ca.gov).

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